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UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 05 OTTAWA 003442

SIPDIS

STATE

SECSTATE FOR ECA/PE/V/F/A - MCAIN, RMARTIN, LWEBER;
WHA/PDA - JCARPENTER-ROCK; WHA/CAN - TBREESE
CALGARY FOR FIELD REP
AMCONSULS VANCOUVER, TORONTO and MONTREAL for PAO

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [KPAO](#) [OEXC](#) [SCUL](#) [CA](#)

SUBJECT: FY 2006 Voluntary Visitor Gerard Bourdeau

1. SUMMARY. Post proposes a ten-day funded Voluntary Visitor program for Gerard (Gerry) Bourdeau, Deputy Minister for International and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Province of Alberta. The proposed project support MPP goals of Secure and Stable Markets (energy security, environmental protection) and Mutual Understanding. Proposed program dates are January 9, 11, 16, 19, 23 or 25. Mr. Bourdeau has full-country team approval. Justification and nomination follow in EVDB format. Post appreciated the Voluntary Visitor Program's consideration of this proposal. END SUMMARY.

START FIXED-FORMAT TEXT (PLEASE DO NOT EDIT):

: The following data is in a fixed format which enables
: automated processing in Washington and should not be
: edited except by means of the Post-EVDB software.

EXPORT-SOURCE: POST-EVDB

VERSION: 3.0.7

POST-EMAIL: slw@pd.state.gov

TRANSMITTING-POST: PAS Ottawa

TRANSMITTING-POST-ID: 6540

EXPORT-TYPE: BIO DATA

START NOMINATION:

ECA-OFFICE: E/VFA

PROG-AGENCY-NAME:

POST-PROJ-ID: 369

ECA-PROJ-NO:

PROJ-NAME: Bourdeau, Gerard - VV

START MEMO PROJ-DESC:

END MEMO PROJ-DESC:

PROJ-TYPE: Individual

PROG-TYPE: Voluntary Visitor

FY: 2006

DEPART-POST: 01/08/2006

SESSION-DATE:

RETURN-POST: 01/18/2006

NO-OF-PART: 1

RANK-ORDER: 0

START MEMO POST-OBJ:

END MEMO POST-OBJ:

START MEMO POST-RCMD:

END MEMO POST-RCMD:

ECA-OFFICE-ID: 1029

PROG-AGENCY-ID:

PROJ-TYPE-ID: IND

PROG-TYPE-ID: 30

NOMINATING-POST-ID: 6540

FUNDING-CNTRY-ID: 179098

STATUS: N

ORIGINATOR: P

SUBJ-DISC: Economics (General)

START BIO:

PREFIX:

F-NAME: Gerard

M-NAME: Arthur

L-NAME: Bourdeau

SUFFIX:

POSITION-CODE: 120

PRINCIPAL?: Yes

M-ADDR1: 12th Floor Commerce Place

M-ADDR2: 10155 102 Avenue

M-ADDR3:

M-CITY: Edmonton,

M-STATE: Alberta

M-CNTRY: Canada

M-ZONE: T5J 4G8

M-ZIP:

M-PHONE: 780 427-6644

M-FAX: 780 423-6654

M-EMAIL: gerry.bourdeau@gov.ab.ca

M-CNTRY-ID: CA

M-ADDRTYPE:

GENDER: M

DOB: 06/22/1948

MAR-STAT:

BIRTH-CITY: Kingston, Ontario

BIRTH-CNTRY: Canada

CITIZ-CNTRY: Canada

RES-CNTRY: Canada

START MEMO POSITION:

Deputy Minister, International and Intergovernmental
Affairs, Province of Alberta, 2000-present

END MEMO POSITION:

START MEMO OTHER-POSITIONS:

END MEMO OTHER-POSITIONS:

START MEMO PREV-POSITIONS:

Managing Director, Alberta Public Affairs Bureau, 1994-2000
Executive Director, Communications Planning and Consulting
Division, Alberta Public Affairs Bureau, 1992-94
Senior Public Affairs Director, Alberta Public Affairs
Bureau, 1988-1992
Director of Communications, Alberta Labour Department, 1987-
88
Vice President and Director of Marketing and Sales, Cenergy,
Inc (Edmonton), 1985-87
Manager of Communications and Marketing Services, Manager of
Public Relations, Chief of Media Relations, Export
Development Corporation, Ottawa, 1976-85
Reporter/Senior Editor, Canadian Press (Ottawa and Toronto),
1969-76

END MEMO PREV-POSITIONS:

START MEMO US-TRAVEL:

San Diego: 2 days, to attend Council of State Governments
meeting, Nov 2000;
Washington DC and New York: 2 days with Alberta premier,
June 2001;
Coeur d'Alene Idaho: 2 days for Western Governors'
Association/Western Premiers Meetings, August 2001;
Washington DC: 2 days with Alberta Intergovernmental Affairs
Minister, December 2001; Anchorage, Alaska: 3 day premier's
mission, June 2002;
Bozeman, Montana: 3 day Western Governor's Association
meetings, September 2003;
Washington, DC: 4 day mission with Alberta Intergovernmental
Affairs Minister, February 2005

END MEMO US-TRAVEL:

START MEMO OTHER-TRAVEL:

Belgium, France, Switzerland, London: Trade Policy meetings,
September/October 2000
Russia, Germany: Team Canada Trade Mission, February 2002
Tokyo and Sapporo, Japan: mission with Alberta
Intergovernmental Affairs Minister, March/April 2002;
England, Ukraine: Alberta Premier's Mission, May 2002
Mexico: Alberta Intergovernmental Affairs Mission,
March/April 2003
Geneva, London, Dresden(Germany): mission with Alberta
Intergovernmental Affairs Minister, May/June 2003
South Africa: Canada-South Africa Twinning project,
July/August 2003
India, China: Alberta Premier's Mission, January 2004

END MEMO OTHER-TRAVEL:

START MEMO EDUCATION:

no post-secondary degrees, but courses taken at Carleton
University (Journalism); York University (Marketing;
Strategic Planning; Advertising, Public Relations and
Promotional Planning); Wharton School of Business
(International Marketing); Banff Centre (International
Export Marketing and Planning); University of Waterloo
(Business Administration and Financial Planning)

END MEMO EDUCATION:

START MEMO MEMBERSHIPS:

END MEMO MEMBERSHIPS:

START MEMO PUBLICATIONS:

none

END MEMO PUBLICATIONS:

START MEMO SPEC-CONSID:

Dietary/Medical Conditions: diabetic
Smoker/Non-Smoker: non-smoker

END MEMO SPEC-CONSID:

FIRST-LANG: English

ENGL-READ: 5

ENGL-SPEAK: 5

ENGL-COMP: 5

START MEMO NOM-POST-OBJ:

PA Calgary and nominee Gerry Bourdeau have outlined goals
for his program as follows:
--to develop a better understanding of U.S. Government
(including federalism, the role of Congressional district
offices, the function of Congressional committees);
--the role of PACs, NGOs, and think tanks in advancing
issues and shaping policies, and the role of lobbyists (both
at the federal and state level);
--the relationship between cities, state governments, and
the federal government;

--opposition parties, and the growth and development of grassroots parties (meetings both with the current opposition in Congress, the Democrats, and with fringe parties will provide insight into the two-party system and the influence of those within and outside the major parties);
--the role of religion in U.S. politics

END MEMO NOM-POST-OBJ:

START MEMO NOM-POST-RCMD:

Based on these goals and objectives, PA Calgary Rep, with research and input from Intern David Dill, have developed the following suggestions for appointments:

Washington:

--meetings with organization(s) that can provide an overview of federalism; the relationship of states to the federal government; state to state relations; Canada-U.S. relations (recommend Council of State Governments, Chris Sands at the Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown, the Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies/Johns Hopkins, David Biette at the Woodrow Wilson Center's Canada Institute). As well Dr. Robert Stacey, Dean of Government for Patrick Henry College, has authored several books on federalism and English common law and has expressed interest in meeting with the deputy minister;

-- A lobbying firm: DM Bourdeau might be interested in visiting Environmental Energy Lobbyists, as the Alberta government has recently tried to clean up its image of being soft on the environment.

--Department of State, for meetings with Canada desk officers;

--The American Association of Political Consultants;

--Local think tank(s): the Brookings Institute, the Cato Institute, Heritage, or the American Enterprise Institute might be appropriate to give the DM insights into their work;

--a meeting with the office of Sen. Conrad Burns of Montana. We specifically request this meeting with Senator Burns, as it is our sense that he is key to re-opening the dialogue between these two neighbors. Topics to cover would emphasize some of the positive aspects of the relationship, and areas in which positive collaboration have taken root (e.g. border security, energy, native issues, provincial-state organizations such as the Montana-Alberta Bilateral Advisory Council, water issues, and the CANAMEX-the trade route from Alberta to Mexico). This purpose of this appointment is to subtly break the ice and re-establish important contact and dialogue between Alberta and Montana.

--Congressional committee meeting(s): DM Bourdeau has requested the opportunity to sit in on a Congressional Committee session (we suggest the Energy Committee is particularly appropriate for a representative of the Alberta government, although the Committee on Agriculture would also be a good fit, assuming either of these is sitting at the time of his visit). He would also like to take in a session of the full House or Senate;

--visits to Congressional offices: since DM Bourdeau would like to visit Austin and Sacramento following Washington, we suggest meetings with senators or staffers from either Texas or California would be appropriate.

--DM Bourdeau will no doubt make his own plans to drop in on the Alberta office at the Canadian Embassy, so a separate call on the Canadian Embassy is not necessary. Post will coordinate timing for his Embassy call with program officers.

Austin, Texas

--State Capitol: meetings with counterparts in intergovernmental relations; sitting of the State legislature (if in session)

--The Center for Public Policy in Austin: the center is an all-encompassing think tank/NGO/lobbying firm that should give the DM a better understanding of local politics;

--Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum, which is located near the state capitol: A visit to the museum would give DM Bourdeau a better understanding of the development of Texas as a separate nation and then as a state;

-- The Baptist General Convention of Texas has an office a few blocks from the capitol in Austin and would be interested in meeting with Mr. Bourdeau to discuss the role of religion in politics; POC is Suzii Paynter, director of Public Policy for the Convention.

--A meeting with Phil Hardberger, San Antonio mayor: Mayor Hardberger can give the DM a view of the workings of a city government; as well, there may be other contacts in the city as a result of the 2004 Trade and Technology Summit in Calgary which representatives from San Antonio and Monterrey attended.

DM Bourdeau has also asked to visit NASA in Houston; if an "insider's tour" exists,

DM Bourdeau would enjoy such a program.

Sacramento

--State Capitol: meetings with counterparts in intergovernmental relations; sitting of the State legislature (if in session);

--A grassroots political organization, such as a 2006

legislative campaign in Sacramento.

--An ethnic minority group, such as the Sacramento Hispanic Chamber of Commerce or one of the numerous Hispanic PACs centered in Sacramento.

--American Family Association: Scott Lively, President of the California chapter of this group, has offered to meet with DM Bourdeau if the opportunity arises. Mr. Lively has been instrumental in the founding of several conservative and religious PACs and NGOs;

-- Green Party of California. While it may be a bit of a fringe party, a visit to this group would give DM Bourdeau a look at some of the exceptions to the two-party system in the U.S.;

--Sacramento Town Council meeting: This would give the DM an opportunity to see the relationship between city and state governments.

END MEMO NOM-POST-RCMD:

START MEMO VIS-OBJ:

END MEMO VIS-OBJ:

START MEMO VIS-REC:

END MEMO VIS-REC:

NOMINATING-OFFICER: Betty Rice

START MEMO NOMINATING-JUSTIFICATION:

Gerry Bourdeau is the highest-ranking civil servant in the office of International and Intergovernmental Affairs for the Province of Alberta. As Deputy Minister (DM) in this office, Bourdeau is responsible for managing the important associations Alberta cultivates with other provinces, states, and federal governments around the world. The province of Alberta has the fastest growing economy in Canada, fueled by a booming oil and gas sector. And the United States depends on this flourishing industry. Alberta is the energy capital of Canada, which supplies more than 15% of crude oil and 16% of natural gas to the U.S. As well, the development of the Athabasca Oil Sands (currently producing one million barrels of crude oil every day, the lion's share of which goes to the U.S.) will yield a sharp increase in the amount of oil Alberta produces in the near future, strengthening the province's position as the main producer of these important resources. In a time when energy security is of critical concern, it is important to encourage and nurture the relationship between Alberta and the United States.

From the northern perspective, no relationship is more important to Alberta than the one it shares with the United States; the province recognizes the significance of this and has taken steps to cement this connection. Earlier this year, Alberta opened an office in Washington, located at the Canadian Embassy and headed by the former provincial energy minister. The office of International and Intergovernmental Affairs works closely with the Washington office and with ConGen Calgary on a variety of issues including energy, agriculture, security and trade. We find provincial officers eager to engage and advance the relationship, and ours has been a long-standing and positive one. That said, we cannot let our relationship lag, especially with respect to energy during this critical time.

The post's contact with DM Bourdeau has been limited to a few meetings over the five years he has been in his position- and Bourdeau himself does not have any substantial first-hand experience in the United States. We hope that this Voluntary Visitor Project will give him a stronger focus and background on the United States, and will result in a closer relationship between an important provincial government official and U.S. colleagues and counterparts. We further hope that this exchange will present more opportunities for the United States to engage an important ally.

Another important, more sensitive and subtle goal for this program revolves around a more rocky relationship. Over the last few years, officials in Alberta and Montana have experienced a breakdown in communications. Alberta government officials have told us, off the record, that the current state of communication between the province and the state is, at senior levels, virtually non-existent. The recent BSE situation and subsequent action by Montana ranchers to bar beef and cattle imports from Canada, failure to attend and engage in cross-border meetings, and the frustration of Montanans who are living next to the economically-booming Alberta have all contributed to this breakdown. Since they have so much in common, and since there are many on both sides of the border who would like to see the relationship get back on track, ConGen Calgary would like to quietly encourage the state and the province to get back to the business of business-and we believe that there may be an opportunity for DM Bourdeau to begin the process by calling on a federal legislator from Montana.

END MEMO NOMINATING-JUSTIFICATION:

NOM-OFF: PA Calgary

SPEAKER?: No

NOTIFY-EMB: No

MEDIA?: No

HOME-STAY: No

HOME-HOSP?: Yes

E-I-TYPE: NONE

NOMINEE-ID: 544

PERSON-ID: 422

BIRTH-CNTRY-ID: CA

CITIZ-CNTRY-ID: CA

RES-CNTRY-ID: CA

FIRST-LANG-ID: EN

E-I-TYPE-ID: N

NOM-POST-ID: 6540

NOM-FUNDING-CNTRY-ID: 179098

NOM-STATUS: N

DS2019-ACTION: 1

DS2019-SUBJECT: 45.0601

SPONS-FUNDS: 0

SPONS-AGENCY1:

USGOVT-AGENCY1:

US-AGENCY-AMT1: 0

USGOVT-AGENCY2:

US-AGENCY-AMT2: 0

INTL-ORG1:

INTL-ORG-AMOUNT1: 0

INTL-ORG2:

INTL-ORG-AMOUNT2: 0

VIS-GOVT-AMT: 0

COMMISSION: 0

OTHER-AMOUNT: 0

VIS-AMOUNT: 0

VIS-CAT: 5

END BIO:

END NOMINATION:

END FIXED-FORMAT TEXT:

WILKINS